Serial Number: 09/534,509 Group Art Unit: 1632

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Amended) A method of stabilizing acid-challenged erythrocyte membranes of a mammal in need of prevention or treatment of inflammation or an inflammatory-related disorder, which comprises administering to said mammal a composition comprising total yeast ribonucleic acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier, or diluent, said composition containing said total yeast ribonucleic acid in an amount effective to stabilize said acid-challenged erythrocyte membranes, wherein said composition is administered so that said ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood.

3. (Previously Amended) A method of inhibiting oxidation into arachidonic acid of components of cell membranes of a mammal in need of prevention or treatment of inflammation or an inflammatory-related disorder, which comprises administering to said mammal a composition comprising total yeast ribonucleic acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier, or diluent, said composition containing said total yeast ribonucleic acid in an amount effective to inhibit oxidation into arachidonic acid of components of cell membranes of the mammal, wherein said composition is administered so that said ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood.

4. (Previously Amended) A method of reducing an amplitude of variations of NO-synthetase activity induced by inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder in a mammal, which comprises administering to said mammal a composition comprising total yeast ribonucleic acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier, or diluent, said composition containing said total yeast

ribonucleic acid in an amount effective to reduce the amplitude of the variations of NO-synthetase activity in the mammal, wherein said composition is administered so that said ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood.

5. (Previously Amended) A method of inhibiting thrombocyte aggregation induced by inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder, which comprises administering to a mammal in need of such treatment a composition comprising total yeast ribonucleic acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier, or diluent, said composition containing said total yeast ribonucleic acid in an amount effective to inhibit thrombocyte aggregation, wherein said composition is administered so that said ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid is administered in an amount within a range of from 0.1mg to 1g per kg weight of a mammal.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 6, wherein said ribonucleic acid is obtained from a *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 6, wherein said ribonucleic acid is obtained from a *Candida utilis*.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid has a nitrogen content of more than 14.5% by weight.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid has a phosphorus content of more than 8.5% by weight.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid is administered by an intradermal, hypodermal, oral, intra-abdominal, intramuscular, or intravenous route, or is directly administered to a situs of the inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder.

13-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition ~~for the treatment or the prevention of inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder,~~ comprising total yeast ribonucleic acid and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, carrier, or diluent, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises more than 14.5% by weight nitrogen and more than 8.5% by weight phosphorus.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 20, wherein said ribonucleic acid has a nitrogen content is more than 15.16% by weight.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 20, wherein said ribonucleic acid has a phosphorus content of more than 9.05% by weight.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said composition is administered by interabdominal injection.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 2, wherein the inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder is inflammatory swelling.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 25, wherein the inflammatory swelling is carageenan-induced.

27. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 2, wherein the inflammation

or inflammatory-related disorder is auto-immune inflammation.

28 (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 27, wherein the auto-immune inflammation is adjuvant arthritis.

29. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 2, wherein the mammal is a rat or a mouse.

30. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The A method in accordance with claim 3, wherein the mammal is a rat or a mouse.

31. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 4, wherein the mammal is a rat or a mouse.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 5, wherein the mammal is a rat or a mouse.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 2, wherein said composition is administered so that ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood prior to occurrence of the inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder.

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 3, wherein said composition is administered so that ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood prior to occurrence of the oxidation into arachidonic acid of components of cell membranes.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method in accordance with claim 4, wherein said composition is administered so that ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood prior to occurrence of increased NO-synthetase activity.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The A method in accordance with claim 5, wherein said composition is administered so that ribonucleic acid is present into the mammal's blood prior to the inflammation or inflammatory-related disorder.

38. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The pharmaceutical composition in accordance with claim 20, wherein nucleic acids contained in the composition consist essentially of said total yeast ribonucleic acid.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises at least about 14.7% by weight of nitrogen and at least about 8.6% by weight of phosphorus.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises at least about 15.16% by weight of nitrogen and at least about 8.6% by weight of phosphorus.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises at least about 15.49% by weight of nitrogen and at least about 9.05% by weight of phosphorus.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 2, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises more than 15.0% by weight of nitrogen and more than 9.0% by weight of phosphorus.

43. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 20, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises at least about 15.16% by weight of nitrogen and at least about 8.6% by weight of phosphorus.

44. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 20, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises at least about 15.49% by weight of nitrogen and at least about 9.05% by weight of phosphorus.

45. (Previously Amended) The composition of claim 20, wherein said ribonucleic acid comprises more than 15.0% by weight of nitrogen and more than 9.0% by weight of phosphorus.

46-55. (Canceled)